

LTS

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S E C R E T

Station: Berlin Registry No: 1346
Reference: AB 36 Report Date: 648
Source: Ford Report Date: 3 January 1947
Zigzag Information Date: Current
Evaluation: B Date Info Received: 23-30 Dec 46
SUBJECT: Captain Skurin's Current Interests.

1. Reference: BSC/Ops/007 of 20 December 1946.
2. As the month of December began to approach its end, SKURIN's interviews with source became more frequent (at least twice weekly, compared with the usual once a week schedule) and his requests became more numerous. SKURIN, according to his own admission to source, was faced with the problem of showing as good a monthly report as possible--which boiled down to as many arrests to his credit as possible.
3. On 23 December, for example, SKURIN told source to look up a certain Otto FISCHER, Berlin-Dahlem, Drygalskistrasse 2, whom he termed as a "censor of books" for the American Information Control. This FISCHER was to be delivered into the Russians' hands before the end of December "at any cost".
 - a. Our independent check revealed that there had never been an Otto FISCHER living at the address mentioned above, but that a man of that name was listed as sub-tenant of one TIETZE at Drygalskistrasse 9. However, more recently that house had been requisitioned and FISCHER was living at Berlin-Dahlem, Schweinfurter Strasse 65, care of OHLKUELLER. FISCHER was born at Ulm on 22 November 1897. He is not a book censor but simply an auditor at a Treuhandgesellschaft in Berlin-Wilmersdorf, Nassauische Strasse 2 (British Sector).
 - b. When SKURIN received this information, his enthusiasm for arresting FISCHER abated.
4. On 27 December SKURIN asked source to find out everything he could about a Horst ZANDER, about whom he was given nothing to go by but the name.
 - a. Our investigations revealed that there is a Horst ZANDER, publisher, registered from 1936 to date at Berlin-Dahlem, Am Schuelerheim 8 A. ZANDER was born in Steglitz on 31 July 1908. He was divorced from his first two wives and left a widower by his third. At present he is not in Berlin.
5. On the other hand, SKURIN still considered source's operational priorities to be as follows:
 - a. Hildegard BLUM alias BEKYZ: Source is to pay her a visit. Since SKURIN did not give source the briefing he had promised, he does not know quite what the Russians want to know.
 - b. Captain THOMPSON: SKURIN is interested in this notional American captain, and is anxious that source cultivate not the captain, but any German friends the latter may have.
 - c. STUTZER: A new priority, involving subject, a high SS officer, who lived in Neu-Strelitz (Mecklenburg). SKURIN informed source that a daughter, GERDA, lived at Berlin-Halensee, Karlruhestrasse 12 (British Sector), and he is to visit her to determine the father's present whereabouts.
6. Source's first meeting with SKURIN in the new year is scheduled for 3 January 1947.

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